

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) An isolated microorganism strain selected from the group consisting of *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6310), *Lactobacillus salivarius* Salm-9 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6307), *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-18 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6308) and *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-41 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6309).

Claims 2-6 Canceled

7. (Currently amended) A composition comprising a defined competitive exclusion formulation and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said defined competitive exclusion formulation comprises ~~an~~ two or more isolated microorganism strains selected from the group consisting of *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6310), *Lactobacillus salivarius* Salm-9 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6307), *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-18 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6308) and *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-41 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6309).

8. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 7 wherein said defined competitive exclusion formulation comprises the isolated microorganism strain *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6310) and an isolated microorganism *Lactobacillus salivarius* strain selected from the group consisting of Salm-9 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6307), List40-18 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6308) and List40-41 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6309).

9. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 7 wherein said defined competitive exclusion formulation comprises isolated microorganism strains *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6310) and *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-41 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6309).

10. (Currently amended) The defined competitive exclusion formulation of claim 9 further comprising isolated microorganism strains *Lactobacillus salivarius* Salm-9 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6307) and *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-18 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6308).

11. (Currently amended) The composition of claim ~~10~~ 9 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier comprises water.

12. (Currently amended) The composition of claim ~~10~~ 9 formed as feed for poultry.

13. (Currently amended) The composition of claim ~~10~~ 9 in the form of a frozen or lyophilized powder.

14. (Currently amended) A method for inhibiting enteropathogenic colonization of poultry, said method comprising the steps of administering to said poultry a defined competitive exclusion formulation comprising an isolated microorganism strain selected from the group consisting of *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6310), *Lactobacillus salivarius* Salm-9 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6307), *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-18 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6308) and *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-41 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6309).

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the defined competitive exclusion formulation comprises an isolated microorganism strain *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6310) and an isolated microorganism *Lactobacillus salivarius* strain selected from the group consisting of Salm-9 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6307), List40-18 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6308) and List40-41 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6309).

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the defined competitive exclusion composition comprises *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13 (ATCC

Accession no. PTA-6310), *Lactobacillus salivarius* Salm-9 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6307), *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-18 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6308) and *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-41 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6309).

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14 wherein the enteropathogen is selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter*.

18. Canceled.

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~16~~ 15 wherein the competitive exclusion composition is administered orally.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the competitive exclusion composition is administered in combination with feed for said poultry.

21. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the competitive exclusion composition is administered in the drinking water for said poultry.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~16~~ 15 wherein the competitive exclusion composition is administered by spraying the formulation directly on the poultry.

23. (Currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 16~~ claim 15 wherein the composition is administered to newborn chicks, ranging in age from about 1 to about 4 days post hatching.

24. Canceled.

25. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting the growth of an enteropathogenic bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter*, said method comprising the step of contacting the enteropathogen with a defined bacterial composition comprising an isolated bacteria selected from the group

consisting of *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6310), *Lactobacillus salivarius* Salm-9 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6307), *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-18 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6308) and *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-41(ATCC Accession no. PTA-6309), or a product produced by said bacteria.

26. (Currently amended) A method for reducing levels of enteropathogenic bacteria, selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter*, in poultry, said method comprising the step of contacting the enteropathogen with a composition comprising an isolated bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6310), *Lactobacillus salivarius* Salm-9 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6307), *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-18 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6308) and *Lactobacillus salivarius* List40-41(ATCC Accession no. PTA-6309), or a product produced by said bacteria, in an amount effective to reduce said enteropathogenic bacteria levels.

27. (Currently amended) The method of claim 26 wherein the said composition comprises an isolated microorganism strain *Streptococcus cristatus* List40-13 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6310) and an isolated microorganism *Lactobacillus salivarius* strain selected from the group consisting of Salm-9 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6307), List40-18 (ATCC Accession no. PTA-6308) and List40-41(ATCC Accession no. PTA-6309).

28. (Canceled)

29. (Original) The method of claim 26 wherein the competitive exclusion composition is administered in combination with feed for said poultry.

30. (Original) The method of claim 26 wherein the competitive exclusion composition is administered in the drinking water for said poultry.